

16 October 1952

STAT

Mrs. Marion L. Talamantez



Dear Mrs. Talamantez:

General Smith has asked me to acknowledge your letter of October 4th and its expression of support.

You have been quite correct however in believing that the problems of which you write lie within the jurisdiction of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Moreover they lie outside the responsibility of this Agency and we cannot therefore be of any help to you with respect to them.

Sincerely,



STAT

Assistant to the Director

REL:aml

Distr: Orig - addressee

1 - signer

1 - reading

1 - official w/basic ✓

*Sci / th*

October 4, 1952

General Walter Bedell Smith  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

Just a short time ago, you issued a statement that there were probably Communists in every secret agency in the United States. According to my experiences, you are one-hundred percent correct.

I wrote a novel some years ago (see enclosed announcement) on the subject of Communism as related to labor unions. It was published in January 1950 and ever since that time the strangest things have been happening to me. Every attempt I made anywhere in the United States to promote my book had very peculiar outcomes.

I, of course, wrote the novel as a service to my country. When these strange things began happening, I started to get suspicious that perhaps this opposition I was facing was due to the Communists. I wanted to further serve my nation and so I decided to report various incidents to the F. B. I. The first contact I made with this agency was in March of 1951, over a year

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after these things began to happen.

This is the beginning of a story that is much too complicated to discuss in a letter. Summing it up briefly, I made a total of six contacts with F. B. I. agents in an attempt to give them information. Of the six, one was in Washington, two in Philadelphia, two in Newark, N. J. and one was "one of Mr. Hoover's most trusted assistants," also in Washington. In addition to this, I spoke with a member of the Un-American Activities Committee with no results. I have been working very hard on this Communist problem, but thus far have found it impossible to interest any secret agency in helping me in what I am doing.

I am of the belief that the Communist spies have succeeded in gaining a dangerous stronghold on our labor unions with the intention of Communizing American industry. To accomplish this, from my experience it looks as though there is a secret underground movement going on which is supposed to be completely divorced from Russia. At least, that is what they are told. Their work is being carried on through the Democratic Party and repeal of the Taft-Hartley Law is their aim. At the present time it seems to

me that this law is our sole protection against this menace as the F. B. I. certainly can't be doing justice to this situation as evidenced by my experiences.

I have a lot of material (including names) that is in need of professional investigation and there is every possibility that such an investigation could reveal facts to back up my suspicions.

I have also found that freedom of the press is nonexistent. That is, in part, what is involved in the information I have possession of. It seems as though the union situation is tied up with the press.

There is an election coming up that is just about the most important one in the history of this nation. Labor unions are so strong politically, they can easily win the election in spite of the fact that a man of General Eisenhower's stature is opposing them. If it is true that our enemy, Russia, is using the Democratic Party, the people should surely know about it before the election so they can vote wisely. If not, a victory for the Democrats would result in a victory for Russia and only God knows what after that.

I have enclosed with this letter an article that appeared on the editorial page of a newspaper. I have underlined a statement which avers that spy hunting is a job that has to be done professionally by "the F. B. I. and those trained in espionage work." That's what I always thought until I tried working with these agents and I don't know what kind of training they could have had. I was amazed to learn of their attitudes toward the phase of the Communist situation on which I have been working. This editorial goes on to say something about the country worrying. Tax-payers would be worried if they had the experience with the F. B. I. that I had.

Another comment of this same editorial I want to remark on is the final statement about you and your attitude towards this situation. The country is extremely fortunate to have a man like yourself. Your kind are so few and far between that it is pathetic. As a matter of fact, I have been waiting a long time to find someone like you and I hope you won't disappoint me, but will do better than the F. B. I.

I forgot to mention another place in

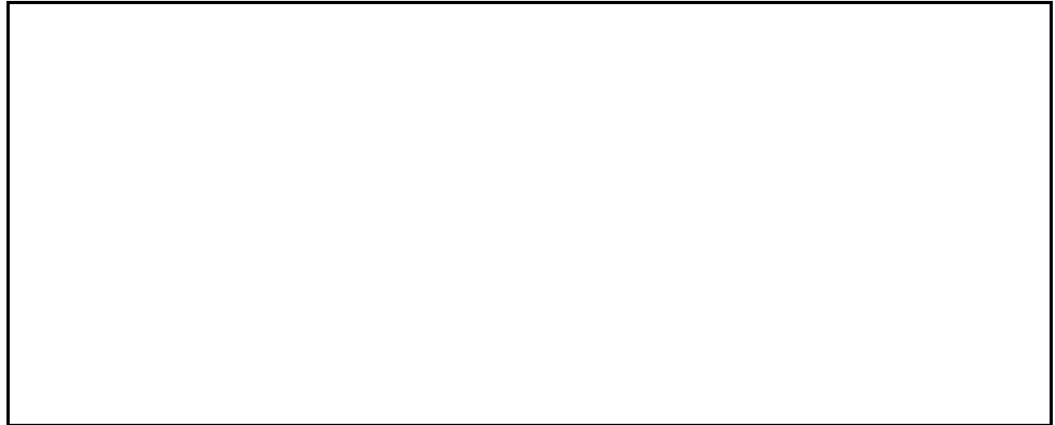
which I think I have detected some espionage work going on and this also involves unions. I have only suspicions here because the F. B. I. refused to tell me whether or not they investigated this matter. Ever since my book was published almost three years ago, a lot of my mail has disappeared and many letters I wrote never got to the individuals to whom they were addressed, but it appears as though they were intentionally redirected to other individuals. If the Reds are in the Post Office, you may not know of this activity and there is no telling to what extent they are carrying on their work at this source. Recently I have been using extreme caution in the mailing of my letters. For this letter to you, I happen to have the good fortune of finding a loyal American and friend that is going to send and receive any correspondence that transpires between you and myself. Whatever you do, never use my name on the envelope. This friend can be trusted and knows all the details of what is going on. He is greatly interested in combatting Communism.

I want to know if you can have an investigation made into the matters I have discussed

6.

in this letter. I am available to help in any way I can. Just let me know what is your desire and I will beat your service.

I shall be expecting to hear from you as soon as possible. You will send the letter to: STAT



Marion L. Talamantez (Mrs.)

## Spies in CIA

General Walter Bedell Smith, director of the Central Intelligence Agency, made sensible remarks about Communists in Government in the middle of a political campaign. His timing might have been a mistake, but certainly what he said does not deserve to be distorted into a panicky charge that our Government suffers from widespread infiltration by Reds.

General Smith knows from first-hand experience with Moscow of the existence of Communist spy rings which are worldwide. It is their business to plant their agents where they can get valuable information; and no department of our Government could give them more than the CIA. General Smith would indeed be silly if he assumed that no Red was wily enough to try to penetrate into his organization.

It is sensible to recognize the fact that the Reds may have succeeded, and to be on guard. This the General has done by dividing the duties of his employees so that no one of them except those at the top can put together information that is of much value.

General Smith wishes he had some sure and easy method of ferreting out these spies; but none of the political orators who talk on this theme can give him one. The Reds would surely be smart enough to avoid employing anyone who in the past was suspected of being a Communist.

The job of hunting down dangerous Red spies is a professional one for the FBI and those trained in espionage work. It is absurd to imagine that amateurs and politicians can track down and catch spies who know all the tricks of their trade. The country would have a right to be worried if the CIA were complacent and sure of the integrity of everyone of its employees. Fortunately, that is not General Smith's attitude.



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